

IMPORTANT PRESCRIPTION BENEFIT INFORMATION FOR
Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) and PeachCare for Kids
Pharmacy Plans

RE: Diabetic Meters and Blood Glucose Testing Supplies Change

Dear Pharmacist:

Effective November 1, 2002, *Accu-Chek® brand by Roche Diagnostics will be the only blood glucose self-testing meters, strips, and lancets covered for Georgia Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids recipients.*

Please inventory and fortify your stock in advance of November 1, 2002.

Make note of the following important items pertinent to this change:

- Georgia Medicaid recipients currently using non-Accu-Chek® meters have been sent notification along with their physicians.
- For Medicaid recipients that are currently using Accu-Chek® brand test strips and Soft Touch® or Softclix® lancets there is **no** action required.
- Those patients currently using meter brands other than Accu-Chek®, should be provided an Accu-Chek® meter at no charge (\$0.00 co-payment); however, Accu-Chek® test strips and Soft Touch® or Softclix® lancets should be supplied at the preferred co-payment (\$0.50 for one month's supply).
- For newly diagnosed patients (those not switching from another brand of meter), charge the appropriate co-payment for their new Accu-Chek® meters and strips.
- Do not accept old meters for return to the manufacturers. This is not a "trade in" program, Medicaid recipients are instructed not to bring in their old meters for this program.
- The change to the Roche products can be done as early as October 1, 2002 and does not need to wait until November 1, 2002.
- Please contact the recipients' physicians to obtain authorizations for the Accu-Chek® meters, strips, and lancets if necessary.
- Any appeals for non-covered meters and strips will be handled as appeals through DCH, just like any other non-covered items in the Medicaid program.
- More detailed claim submission changes/information will be addressed in a forth-coming fax blast.

The following important items are enclosed for your use:

1. A reference brochure that describes each of the newest Accu-Chek® meters available and corresponding strips. If you or your staff have questions regarding any of the Accu-Chek® meters please call the Accu-Chek® Customer Care center at 800-858-8072.
2. An information sheet that outlines the diabetic supply coverage for Medicaid recipients.
3. A workshop training schedule for pharmacists. Roche Diagnostics will be hosting these hands-on workshops throughout Georgia to demonstrate the Accu-Chek® meters and test strips. Please review the information and select the location and time that is convenient for you to attend. **Continuing Education credits will be provided.**

4. A question and answer sheet (Q&A).

We value your expertise and assistance in ensuring the most appropriate, cost-effective care possible for our recipients and your patients. We appreciate your cooperation in making this a smooth and seamless transition. If you or your staff has any questions about this change or any other medications, please call the Express Scripts toll-free provider help-line number at:

1-877-650-9340.

Regards,

Lori Garner
Director, Pharmacy Services
Georgia Department of Community Health

IMPORTANT COVERAGE INFORMATION
GEORGIA MEDICAID/PEACHCARE FOR KIDS
PHARMACY BENEFIT CHANGE
FOR DIABETIC METERS AND SUPPLIES

New Diabetic Supplies Benefit for Meters, Strips, and Lancets for Georgia Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids effective 11/01/02

- ❑ A recipient with an Accu-Chek® Blood Glucose Meter will not need a new meter under this program – the one unit per lifetime benefit still applies.
- ❑ A recipient currently using a non-Accu-Chek® /Roche Diagnostics® product will need a new prescription for an Accu-Chek® /Roche Diagnostics® product.
- ❑ A new Prior Authorization will not be required for recipients with a diabetic supply claim in the Georgia Medicaid ESI pharmacy claims history.
- ❑ The lifetime limit of one meter will not apply until the recipient has received an Accu-Chek® meter and the claim is supported in the Georgia Medicaid ESI pharmacy claim system.
- ❑ A recipient currently using a non-Accu-Chek® Blood Glucose Meter will have a \$0.00 copay on the Accu-Chek® meter.
- ❑ The Accu-Chek® Voice-mate System will require a Prior Authorization without consideration to previous claims on file in the Georgia Medicaid ESI pharmacy claims system.

- * Please note. The coverage for all other diabetic supplies provided under the Georgia Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids pharmacy benefit will remain the same.

The following diabetic supplies require Prior Authorization unless drug history shows any one of the following products dispensed within the past 180 days.

- *Insulin Syringes - (100) per calendar month without prior approval*
- *Insulin Delivery Systems - (1) per calendar year without prior approval*
- *Roche Diagnostics® Lancets – (100) per calendar month without prior approval*
- *Accu-Chek® Blood Glucose Test Strips (except Accu-Chek® Compact Test Drum Strips) - (100) per calendar month without prior approval*
- *Accu-Chek® Compact Test Drum Strips – (102) per calendar month without prior approval*
- *Accu-Chek® Glucose Monitors - (1) per lifetime without prior approval*
- *Urine Glucose Test Strips - (100) per calendar month without prior approval*

If you have any questions, please call the toll- free ESI Provider Line at 1-877-650-9340.